

Burbage Energy Action Management (B.E.A.M.)

Report of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING held on 18th November 2009

Officers in Attendance:

Dr Martin Hamer (Treasurer & Secretary),
Mr Mervyn Jones (Membership Secretary),
Mr Rodney Stone (Patron)

Minutes of the AGM

Apologies for Absence

There were two apologies for absence.

Minutes of 2008 AGM

Martin Hamer reprised the minutes from last year's AGM which were accepted. He then summarised the activities of BEAM over the last twelve months. BEAM members had purchased some 650,000 litres of heating oil over the last (2008) year – a 44% rise on last year's (2007) figure of 450,000 litres - and this had enabled BEAM to be able to make available £1,675 for distribution to local organisations within Burbage in 2007. The Allocations had been – Riding for the Disabled (£250), The Surgery (£435), The Parish Council (£500), Burbage Pre-School group (£200), Burbage Toddler Group (£290).

The 2008 AGM Minutes were accepted. The existing Officers agreed to serve a further term.

Financial Matters

The meeting approved the accounts. After allocation of the 2008 grants, BEAM would carry forward a cash balance of £148.04. Over the 2009 year, one Cheque had been issued:-

Hire of Village Hall for AGM £37.50

Members had purchased 469,736 Litres of oil through the BEAM scheme and this had resulted in Total Butler paying BEAM £1,174.34 by way of commission (Balancing payment of £306.57 confirmed but not yet received). This was substantially down on last year's figure but would still enable BEAM, under its revised funding arrangements, to support projects for this year. BEAM's available cash funds now stood at £1,284.88

The Treasurer had monitored, at random intervals, the Total Butler BEAM price against the best Internet prices available over the last twelve months. On average, the BEAM price was -0.5% better than the best available Internet price. Members were re-assured by this - although it was noted that the reduction in overall oil purchases by members could possibly be attributed to operational difficulties experienced by Total Butler last winter. Overall, oil purchases (and the concomitant funding) were down by 28%.

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Membership

The current total membership was 325 with an additional 8 applications pending. On this basis, the "average" volume of oil purchased by BEAM members was of the order of 1,500 Litres. Members were pleased to learn that an article outlining BEAM's activities had appeared in The Times newspaper and, thanks to the actions of the Membership Secretary (Mervyn Jones), BEAM was now able to post the daily BEAM price on the Burbage Village Community Forum (<http://burbageforum.com>)

Grant s

The six eligible village organisations had been invited to submit their bids for funding. These had been received and were as follows:-

Burbage Primary School (Development of a garden	£200
Good Companions (Support for village Christmas Lunch)	£200
Burbage Village Hall (New kitchen floor)	£200
Burbage Day Centre (Specialist Coach hire)	£200
Burbage & Easton Royal Sports Club (Cricket pitch cover)	£150
Burbage Brownies group (Assistance with centenary year)	£200
TOTAL =	£1,150

Bids totalling £1,150 had thus had been received and – as the maximum available funds for distribution were £1,284.88 – it was possible to support in full all the bids. This would leave the BEAM account with a cash surplus of £134.88 – a sufficient operating amount to cover the costs of a postal ballot in 2010 should it be required. Members welcomed this very positive outcome and also welcomed the fact that it had not been necessary to undertake a postal ballot.

It was agreed that all the bids should be supported in full and that BEAM, through the purchasing activities of its members, was able to make a positive contribution to a wide range of voluntary organisations within the village. The Treasurer reminded those present that it was largely through the efforts of Rodney Stone, in establishing BEAM, that this unique organisation had been able to contribute a sum of approaching £10,000 over the last few years to clubs, organisations and societies within the village. The meeting agreed unanimously with these sentiments and wished to formally record their thanks for his efforts, support and work over the years. The Treasurer would write to each of the six organisations advising them of the outcome of their bids.

Any other business

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.